

April 2015

DSDHH Newsletter



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20th Year

Robert G Sanderson Community Center
of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
5709 South 1500 West Taylorsville, UT
84123-5217

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DIRECTOR'S DISCUSSION

by Marilyn Call

Legislative Session 2015

The Good, the Bad, and the On-going Hard



I will start with the good news. An important Bill passed. HB 112 "Hearing Instrument Specialist Amendments" passed thanks to a great sponsor, Rep. Gage Froerer, and committed advocates from the Loop Utah Steering Committee. This Bill will bring about great benefits to people who use hearing aids or cochlear implants. This Bill requires that hearing aid sales people and audiologists take the time to:

"inform each patient who is being offered a hearing instrument about hearing instruments that work with assistive listening systems that are compliant with the ADA standards for accessible design adopted by the U.S. Department of Justice."

This little addition of wording along with an educational campaign can open up participation in public events such as theatres, public meetings, museums, classrooms, etc.

Most hearing aid users do not understand that when their hearing aid has an activated T-coil they can check out a neck loop at public events and their hearing aids can become customized wireless loud speakers. With this technology most individuals can hear every word coming from the sound system. This law requires that they be told about the technology when they are purchasing a hearing aid. Huge!

There are other good things that happened during this session. The Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH) started an email blast targeted to people who wanted to help with legislative efforts. When people were needed to be in the audience of a budget or Bill hearing, the blast was sent and people showed up. If you want to join this list please email Jenefer Reudter at: jreudter@utah.gov

More DSDHH staff were given the opportunity to participate in the legislative process. Joene Nicolaisen and Grant Pemberton now have a good understanding of both the Bill and budget processes at the Capitol. Many others sat through important hearings. Joene and I discovered while asking to meet with legislators that if we included our text number on notes sent inside to our legislators we may get a fast text response from the legislator. Also many legislators are on Facebook. Request to friend your legislators and get to know them better through social media.



There were many new legislators to build new relationships with this year. DSDHH staff made good progress building relationships with new legislators. Relationships are key to success and they take time to build.

Utah's Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program had to ask for \$6.3 million to continue serving VR clients this year. The VR leaders have not done anything criminal or dishonest to create these serious funding problems. The VR division was not following sound and correct accounting principles for many years. As federal dollars dwindled with this complicated budget, the problems came to light.

The other hard, on-going issue of this past year and legislative session is the idea of moving the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation (USOR) from the Board of Education to another department which is being seriously studied by the legislature during the interim months. It is very likely that this will happen within the next two years. DSDHH is currently and temporarily under the supervision of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB) Superintendent, Joel Coleman. Recruitment is now underway for a new USOR Executive Director. What will happen in the future is hard to predict but we at DSDHH will advocate for the best positioning of this division.

PROGRAM PROGRESS

by Joene Nicolaisen
Program Director

Pause and Reflect

The last five months have been very busy! So busy in fact that I realized now with Spring in the air, it is a good time to stop and look back on what we have been doing and look forward to what's to come.

The photo shown at right was taken at beautiful Bandon Beach in southern Oregon a few years ago while on vacation. The picture reminds me that nothing really remains still, just like the waves of the ocean that constantly move and shape the sands. Many changes happen under the surface that no one sees. This is so true of life and with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.

For me now is the time to pause and reflect, taking time to appreciate all of the changes and the people helped (staff, volunteers and community members).

Here are a few highlights of programs and events since in the last six months:

November - Strategic Plan Developed (on-going progress).

December - Community Calendar Partnership community developed to create one calendar showing events. Calendar to be shared soon.

January - WSBCC Basketball event hosted at the Sanderson Center.

February - Deaf Services Advisory Council held an Open House and recruited four new possible members. Legislature in session. HB 112 passed! This is to require audiologists to inform customers about their hearing aid technology and if they are compatible with many ADA public listening systems.

March - In the midst of many community events: ASL/CASE sign classes; Spring Easter Egg Hunt event (record turn out); Dog training; Circle of Friends activities; Deaf Women's Expo; just to name a few!

What's to come in the next five months? Yoga, Rocky Mountain Deaf Theater, Summer Day Camp for Deaf/HH children and their siblings, Living with Hearing Loss classes, ASL/CASE Spring Classes, Loop Utah meetings, and so much more! Continue checking our FaceBook page and website for more information. Please let us know if there is a class or event you would like us to host.

In closing, I'd like to share a quote which I feels reflects the recent changes (even the unseen ones) and peek at what's to come. Thank you everyone for making things happen!

Things do not happen. Things are made to happen" John F. Kennedy



BUSY BUILDING

by Jennifer Reudter

March 2015 Annual Spring Egg Hunt

The Sanderson Community Center became very colorful and full of excitement on March 21st with many different spring games and crafts along with an egg hunt for the young visitors! The Sanderson Community Center volunteers and staff welcomed approximately 325 visitors for the Annual Spring Egg Hunt. This was a huge turnout and many positive comments were made during the event! For some, the Annual Spring Egg Hunt was a first time visit to the Sanderson Community Center and we hope to see many of them return to our center for future events.



While the Annual Spring Egg Hunt typically focuses on Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and their siblings, the event also allowed for many parents to have the opportunity to meet other parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and connect with other parents and share experiences

and stories of raising their children. The atmosphere allowed for these new connections and relationships to form while the children played with one of the 25 volunteers and staff members doing a variety of games and crafts and even getting pictures with the Easter Bunny. The Sanderson Community Center appreciates all the volunteers and staff who worked hard to make sure this was an event to remember. Mary Beth Baierl, our new Deaf Program Specialist, did a phenomenal job at planning a variety of activities to keep the young children and their families busy and entertained. Hands waving to all to participated and volunteered! The Annual Spring Egg Hunt once again is declared a great success!



VITA Program Files Taxes for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

by Jorie Hill

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a program coordinated by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) partnering with the Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAPUtah) and other agencies to help the elderly, people with disabilities, or anyone who earns less than \$60,000/year to file their taxes for free. The IRS oversees the operation of the program and ensures volunteers are trained to know the basics about tax preparation, tax credits, exemptions and ethics. CAPUtah coordinates

each of the VITA sites located at senior centers, libraries, colleges, community centers and other facilities across the state of Utah. The Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing partnered with the VITA program to provide services to individuals who are Deaf in American Sign Language, as well as individuals who are Hard of Hearing or Late Deafened through provision of assistive listening devices or other needed accommodations.

The three volunteers are Ron Nelson, Jason Mauray and Jorie Hill who provide services on Friday mornings with Greg McDonald from CAPUtah to quality check each return. Since February when they began, they have served 96 Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals file their federal and state taxes on-line for free. These individuals are not allowed to accept any gifts or donations, their pride is in helping people and giving back to the community. The Sanderson Community Center extends our deepest gratitude to these individuals for their service. These 96 Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals served would otherwise have to figure out how to file their taxes on-line themselves, or pay a friend or professional tax preparer to submit their taxes.

The deadline to pay any tax amount due is April 15, 2015. Tax refunds should be received within 2-3 weeks of the submission, unless there is a problem then a letter is mailed.

For individuals that do not qualify for the VITA tax preparation program or the other on-line 'free file' services because they earn too much money or have business income and losses, they may pay tax preparers to file their taxes. The majority of paid tax preparation services provide honest, high-quality service. Be aware there are also dishonest tax preparers out there. Do not be misled by a tax preparer promising big tax refunds, who may take additional credits than you qualify for, who may falsify figures or documents to get you more money. One clue to know if you may be working with a dishonest tax preparer is if they charge a percentage of your refund for their services – fees should be based on the complexity of the return, not the amount of refund.



These individuals might get their clients a big tax refund, but be aware the IRS could perform an audit at any time within the next 3-6 years. If an error is identified, the individual tax payer (not the preparer) would have to pay back the money plus fines and interest. For more information search the internet for 'tips to avoid dishonest tax preparers.'

Also be careful about responding to email asking questions about your income, social security number, bank account information – this is most likely a scam.

HARD OF HEARING HAPPENINGS

by Chelle Wyatt

How to Talk to Your Audiologist

Lisa Dahlstrom, AuD from the University of Utah, was our presenter and our topic was “How to Talk to Your Audiologist.” She started us with common questions that should be asked on your first visit and why to ask them.



When did hearing loss start? Does anyone else in the family have hearing loss? That clues her in on if it's congenital or not. Is it in one ear or both ears? One ear can be red flag

for something wrong like tumors.

Ear surgeries? Looking to see if the eardrum might be damaged.

Tinnitus? With dizziness? If the tinnitus came on suddenly or is in one ear only, that's a red flag for tumors. She asks about dizziness and then wants to know if it's a tipping over feeling or is the whole room spinning? If it's a tipping over feeling, she will send people to the neurologist. If it's the room spinning, she pursues Meniere's disease.

Have you been around loud noises? People often don't know what those loud noises are and they will typically say no but when she asks about their hobbies things turns up like hunting and use of power tools.

About 95% of the people have peripheral hearing loss which is more to the outside: conductive hearing loss, sensorineural, hereditary, trauma, ototoxic and age related hearing loss.

The other kind of hearing loss is retro cochlear, inside the head which is more serious: brain or nerve damage, mini stroke in the vessels around the ear, MS, acoustic tumors and enlarge vestibular aqueducts.

Lisa told us that what we tell her about how we hear, helps adjust her to adjust our hearing aids. If we bring audiologist a list of specific noises that we think we are missing or what

sounds we don't like helps audiologists make better program adjustments to hearing aid programs. Things like:

When the dishwasher comes on, it seems to shut down my hearing aids.

When riding in the car, the road noise shuts down my hearing aids or I only hear the road noise in cars.

I can't follow the conversation with the clerk in the grocery store.

Traffic noises is too loud.

When I'm in a quiet settings I have troubles following conversation.

I even once complained that chopping vegetables on the cutting board had me grinding my teeth it was so uncomfortable.

Lots of things can be adjusted once we specify what's bothering us. With today's digital hearing aids, these adjustments can be made: gain frequency response, compression, noise suppression, directional mic, t-coil, wireless and speech enhancement.

She talked a little on the differences between audiologists and hearing instrument specialists. She ended the meeting saying she like to tell family, “Always give the person with a hearing loss the benefit of the doubt. Don't think they are ignoring you or not paying attention.”

After the meeting the steering committee met to talk about upcoming meetings. May is Better Speech and Hearing month. We will be joining Loop Utah at one of the first venues to be looped in celebration. More details on when and where will be coming soon.

In July we will have a picnic in the Millcreek area with tips on socializing with hearing loss leading up to the event.

In September the topic will be Hearing Loss and Health issues with Kathy Evans and Marilyn Call presenting. We will a Utah couple going to the National HLAA convention in Missouri in June reporting on their experience. That's bound to be a super meeting as well!

For November, we will talk about our favorite technology and share how it works. We will also feature wireless technology and present apps for smart phones that work for hearing loss.

HARD OF HEARING HAPPENINGS

by Robin Traveller

Plane and Road Traveling Tips for People with Hearing Loss

Air travel is stressful and hectic for everyone but particularly for people with hearing loss when flying alone. Airports and airplanes are noisy places with poor acoustics, situations in which hearing aids aren't much help. Three key areas where we encounter problems are: check-in, gate areas, and in-flight. Here are some basic tips:

1. When you are making airline reservations, you need to think about your seat preference, traveling with hearing dog, alerting devices in hotels, and assistive listening devices for tours.
2. It is wise to take your hearing aid batteries and/or cochlear implant charger and batteries with you on the plane. You never know if your luggage gets lost.
3. After you check in your luggage and go through security, when you arrive at the desk by your assigned gate, identify yourself as a person who is hard of hearing. The airport PA systems are very hard to understand. The clerk there should be able inform you when it's time to enter your plane, gate number is changed, and your flight is postponed or canceled.
4. It is helpful to wear a button that alerts people to our hearing loss and our need for them to face you so you can use your lipreading skills.

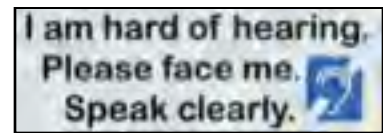
Safety is always first when we are on the **road**. Having checked the tires, oil, and the gas tank, you are planning ahead for your road journey. Also, don't forget to plan ahead for coping with your hearing loss.

Here are some tips:

1. Plan and study your route well, have enlarged map with route highlighted on hand, know the specific highway numbers and exit numbers in advance. Many people have GPS on their phones but for a person with hearing loss, it is difficult to hear and understand what your phone is saying to you but be careful of how you read your GPS directions on your phone and driving simultaneously. Keep your eyes on the road.
2. It is helpful to wear sunglasses to prevent glare on your eyes.
3. For emergency needs, having a flashlight available for driving in the dark, so that faces can be seen clearer than what the interior lights offer.

4. Hand gestures can be helpful during a trip. Some examples are pointing for exits or turns, use a few ASL or hand signs or create gestures for words like bathroom, emergency sirens, slow down, hungry.
5. Sanderson Center has Deaf and Hard of Hearing visitor cards (and wallet-size) for vehicles that tell an officer that you are D/deaf or Hard of Hearing, but also recommendations for communication.

Final note, anytime you travel by car, plane, or train, make sure you have your hearing aids and/or cochlear implant evaluated by your audiologist. Take spare batteries and hearing care supplies with you on any trip. Be prepared to know what to do.



If you would like to have a button, contact me at: rtraveller@utah.gov

Keep paper and pens handy for communication when necessary.



Here are some websites for you to check into:

<http://sath.org/home> The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH), founded in 1976, disabilities, remove physical and attitudinal barriers to free access and expand travel opportunities in the United States and abroad.

<http://www.hearinglosshelp.com/articles/drivesafely.htm>
This is a good article about driving safely with hearing loss.

<http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/deaf-or-hard-hearing-passengers> This article is about Deaf and Hard of Hearing travelers by Transportation Security Administration (TSA).



The Sanderson Community Center of
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is proud
to host
Rocky Mountain Deaf Theatre
Presents

Six Women in Search of a Perfect Play

By Raymond Luczak
Directed by Joette Paulone

April 3rd, 2015
7:00 P.M.

\$5.00 per person (online tix
www.deafservices.utah.gov)

(Children ages 0-8, Free)

Sanderson Community Center of
the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

5709 S. 1500 West
Taylorsville, UT 84123



Want to Learn about Vinyasa Style Yoga?

... a simple yoga for most everyone

Taught by Trisha Traveller Gavin & Mallory McCulley
Certified Vinyasa Instructors

A free class on: Saturday, April 25, 2015

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

At The Sanderson Community Center
5709 South 1500 West, Taylorsville

— Bring to class: Yoga mat, comfortable clothes, and a bottle of water —



DEADLINE to register is April 17, 2015.

Call 801-657-5200 or email: dsdhhregistration@utah.gov

For more information, contact Robin Traveller, 801-657-5752 VP
or email: rtraveller@utah.gov

Class will be taught in spoken English. ASL interpreter will be available. Any other accommodation needed, please let us know at the time of registration.



Circle of Friends 2015 Spring Activities **SAVE THE DATES!**

Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
5709 S. 1500 W., Taylorsville, UT

Saturday, April 25, 2015

10am – 2:30pm

Come learn how race cars are made!
Presented by Trenton, Deaf mechanic.

Trenton's Shop
62



Saturday, May 16, 2015

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Watch Trenton race his car!

BOWLING DAY at FAT CATS

Saturday, June 6, 2015

10am – 2:30pm

Practice bowling, socialize,
have fun!



Contact Rosa Maria: VP 801-590-4888 or Text 801-815-6139

CASE MANAGEMENT CORNER



UTAH INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT NETWORK (UIDAN)

<http://uidan.org>

877-7787-0727

Do you need extra money for:

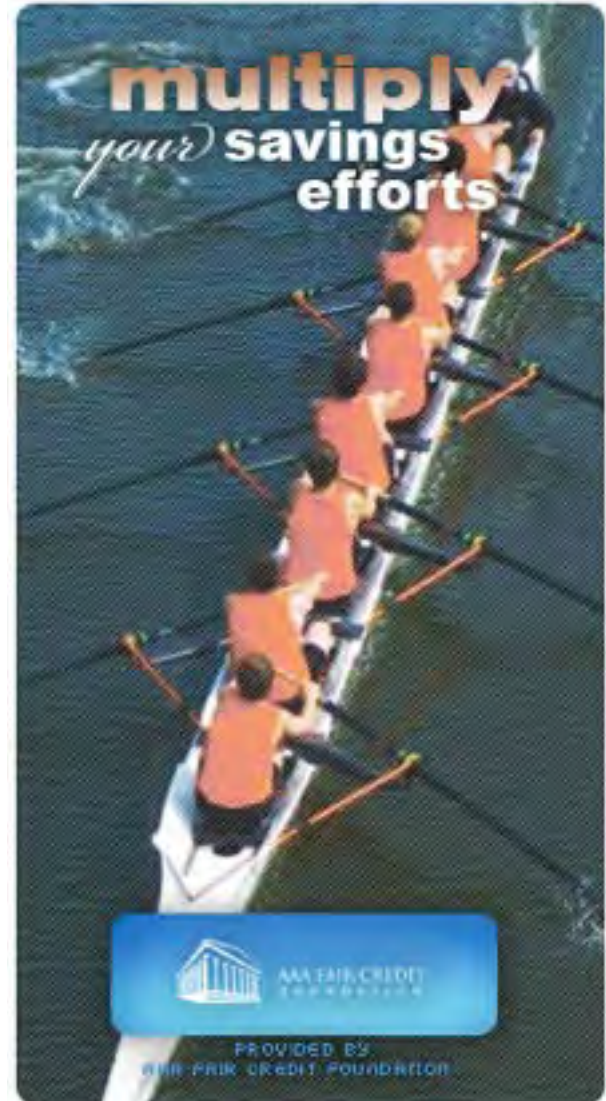
- First-time home
- School/Training program
- Small business
- Assistive technology

UIDAN will match your savings 3-1. If you save \$1, they will give you \$3. You can save up to \$1500 and they will match you with \$4500, giving you a total of \$6000.

This account will not be counted as an asset. This is a federally supported non-profit saving program.

What is required?

- Monthly deposits of \$15-\$62.50
- Participate for 12-36 months
- Attend a financial management training course
- Have earned income
- Maintain contact with financial counselor



DSDHH Case Management Team:

Cheri Mills: cmills@utah.gov - 801-657-5227 VP 801.263.4885 V
Stephen Persinger: spersinger@utah.gov - 801.657.5204 VP
Annette Stewart: ajstewart@utah.gov 801.657.5226 VP or 801.263.4892 V

Grant Pemberton (Southern Utah): gpemberton@utah.gov - 435.216.9306 VP or 435.673.8974 V

Diego Acosta (Southern Utah): dacosta@utah.gov - 435.767.0113 VP

Homeownership Opportunity for People with Disabilities

- Low-interest home loans and re-financing (1%) up to \$45,000
- Pre/post-purchase homeownership education counseling
- Help in finding grants for down payment, closing costs, access modifications

1-866-493-4500

<http://nnhc.net/homechoice.html>



WORK ABILITY

Career Preparation & JOB FAIR
For Job Seekers with Disabilities

Tuesday April 14, 2015
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

SANDERSON COMMUNITY CENTER OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
5709 SOUTH 1500 WEST, TAYLORSVILLE, UTAH

www.deafservices.utah.gov/jobfair

EMPLOYERS ATTENDING IN THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRIES:

(Subject to cancellation)

- Retail
- Construction
- Manufacturing/Production/Assembly
- Hospitality
- Healthcare
- Banking/Finance
- Government
- Technology

ADDITIONAL EMPLOYERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE

Please be sure to bring a current RESUME!

- Employers may have both PAID and VOLUNTEER opportunities
- Community Resources and Workshops available!!

Don't miss this opportunity to find the right job for you.

Interpreters for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing available from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Sponsors: Beans and Brew, Einstein Bro Bagels, Krispy Kreme

Equal Opportunity Employer/Programs

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling (801) 562-9240. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may call Relay Utah by dialing 711.



WORKSHOPS

In conjunction with the Work Ability Job Fair
Sanderson Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
5709 S. 1500 W. Taylorsville

April 14, 2015

All workshops last approximately one hour

Applying for and Working in Federal or State Government

10:30 A.M. Auditorium

Leah Lobato, Business Relations & Shannon Casias, State DHRM

What Are Employers Looking For?

11:30 A.M. Auditorium

Employer Panel

**Successful Job Search: Dress on a Dime &
Secrets to a Winning Interview**

12:30 P.M. Auditorium

Lynda Bonner & Barbara Burke – CTW

USAjobs.gov

12:30 P.M. Classroom B/C

USDA Forest Service

Social Security Disability and Working

1:30 P.M. Auditorium

Benefits Planning Team

Please contact Janae Berry at jmberry@utah.gov
or 801-887-9522 with any questions

Interpreters for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing available for all workshops. Other accommodations available upon request.

TECHNOLOGY TOYS

by Ron Nelson

Relieve Your Stress with Technology

When we are stressed out, it leads us to turn to comforting (sometimes bad) behaviors like eating, drinking or smoking... among other things. Get your stress in check by getting enough sleep, eating healthy, exercising, and with the help of these following AT devices: white noise machines, stress balls/fidget toys, meditation and sleep aid apps, software to help organize your budget, cleaning chores, or electronic files, light box (to combat winter blues), and medication, “take a break” reminders, or other similar habit-changing apps. These all exist for a reason! Try one out to see if one works for you!

Did you attend the 2016 CES Innovation Awards? If not, fear not. Here is some of the new technology stuff coming out in the near future. It will blow your mind.

iHealth Align by iHealth Lab, Inc. This powerful glucose meter plugs directly into your smartphone’s headphone jack and displays results instantly on the phone screen using a mobile app. Its compact size and mobile capability make it the most convenient tool for diabetes management.

Qualcomm® WiPower™ by Qualcomm Incorporated. Qualcomm’s WiPower™ enables wireless charging through radio frequencies and provides greater flexibility for design and installation into phones and other applications like vehicles, office and home furniture, and communal spaces.

Sproutling Baby Monitor by Sproutling. Sproutling is the first baby monitor that senses, learns and predicts a baby’s sleep patterns and optimal sleep conditions.

Swiftpoint GT by Swiftpoint Inc. The first mouse allowing truly natural touch gestures without touching the screen or having a touch display. Windows 10/8/7, Mac, iPad, Android. Bluetooth and wireless USB. Ultra-small unique ergonomic design.

ZUtA Pocket Printer by ZUtA Labs. We re-imagined the printer to fit today’s “on-the-go” working space. We created a little robot that runs on the paper and lays the ink while doing so. The printer is small in size, yet can print on any size of paper -- making a truly mobile printer!

Multi-function Air light (Z-Air) by Zalman USA Inc.. Z-Air is a ceiling fan with concealed blades, air purification, and LED lamp integrated together into a sleek and aesthetically pleasing dome. Simple and easy installation plus smart automation for hassle-free use and operation.

Technology is being harnessed for greater good in the world. Amazing stuff!

The same technology that is making our lives more convenient is saving thousands if not millions of lives in developing countries. Here are 3 ways that technology is making life easier throughout the world.

Omniprocessor

The Omniprocessor takes raw sewage and turn it into potable water along with other benefits such as ash and electricity. Along with being able to harvest potable water from raw sewage, the Omniprocessor also creates electricity.

Empower

Empower Playgrounds harnesses the energy of children (wouldn’t we all like to have the energy of a child!) in rural third-world countries to further their education. By providing a high tech merry-go-round, the kids essentially create energy for their village. The merry-go-round is connected to a deep cycle battery. The battery can then power up rechargeable lanterns, which the school children use at night to be able to study what they learned at school that day. This allows the children to stay in school and complete their education.

Mosquito-zapping lasers

The laser can target a moving mosquito possibly carrying malaria and then zap it with a laser. The contraption is even smart enough to discern whether or not the insect is a mosquito rather than a beneficial honeybee or butterfly by the beat frequency of the insect’s wings. A perimeter could be set up to protect a hospital or a home from malaria-carrying mosquitos and could save as many as to 627,000 lives per year.

There is a lot of fun “toys” out there when it comes to the world of technology. Don’t be afraid to try one!

EMPLOYMENT ENJOYMENT

JOB FAIR TIPS

Are you planning on coming to our Job fair on April 14th from 10 am to 2 pm? If so, here's some great tips for you to prepare!

Research the registered employers. Learn what kind of employers are going, what kind of jobs they have so that way you can go directly to the employers you WANT to work for and talk with them. It'll save your time!

Bring many copies of your resume. Make sure your resume is professional, has no errors and use good quality of paper.

Wear right attire! Best to dress professionally – suit/tie for men, suit/skirt for women

- Have clean dress shoes
- Brush your hair and make sure it looks clean
- Clean/trimmed fingernails
- LITTLE or NO perfume or cologne
- No visible piercing
- Brushed teeth and fresh breath
- No gum, candy or other objects in your mouth
- Don't wear a lot of jewelry
- No body odor

Network with everyone at the Fair!



Bring your master application so if needed, you can copy information from master application for new applications. It'll save your time!

Collect business cards, brochures and info.

Ask questions –
Examples below—

- Who succeeds in the position you're hiring for?
- What would you say is a key characteristic for success in your organization?



**Need help finding a job?
Having problems at your job
and need advice?**

Contact me and I can help.

Contact Information:

PAMELA MOWER

Statewide Employment Specialist

Email- pmower@utah.gov

VP- 801-657-5223

Tuesdays: Ogden VR office

**M, W, TR and Fri: Taylorsville Deaf
Center office**

TBA: Provo



Adventure Week

Save The Date!!!



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day Camp
Sanderson Center
Monday - Friday June 15th-19th
8 AM - 4:30 PM

Ages 7 to 12 years old. Siblings are welcome!

Keep an eye out for more information to come!!!!

Questions? Please contact Jenefer Reudter
jreudter@utah.gov

OUTREACH

Online Classes and Event Streaming Coming Soon!

The Mission Statement of DSDHH states that the “Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provides education, advocacy, and accessible services to enhance the quality of life for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.” With that in mind, we have continually strived to provide our services to all of our Deaf and Hard of Hearing residents living in the State of Utah. We have a beautiful community center in Taylorsville and have been privileged to serve many of those who live close and are able to travel and participate in all the activities and classes provided at the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (SCCDHH). In 2004, we were able to expand our services by obtaining funding to build a Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program (SUDHHP) satellite office in St. George to serve the residents of Southern Utah.

The State of Utah is a pretty big area for both of our North and South offices to cover. We know there are many of you who live long distances from each of these offices. It can be a challenge to find time during your busy days to drive more than 30 minutes to these centers. Also, some residents may have transportation challenges that prevent them from coming to either center. We have not forgotten you!



Beginning March 1st, 2015, we have busily been setting up access to provide online classes and online streaming of events taking place throughout the State. With the use of online technology, the goal is allow all of our Deaf and Hard of Hearing visitors to access the classes and/or events taking place at either SCCDHH or SUDHHP. We also want to allow our wonderful teachers who live in rural areas, opportunities to provide educational courses online to all participants throughout the State. This means we can have a presenter who lives in Vernal and audience members watching in Manti, Delta, Salt Lake City, Cedar City, Kanab.....etc. The possibilities are endless, especially since participation can take place online through either a desktop computer, laptop, tablet device, or even a smartphone. All you need is broadband connectivity.

A big undertaking like this does not happen overnight. There is a lot of pre-preparation involved in finding the best way to make this technology work for everyone. With that in mind, we are looking for volunteers (either Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or hearing) to



test this new system out. Testers would receive instructions as to what role they will play, plus invitations to join mock-classes to test many different options available to us. We need both, someone who would like to “teach” an online course, and others who will be either active or passive participants. Plans to start running these test courses will occur about the middle of April. If you have any interest in participating, teaching, or even just observing these online test courses, please contact Mitch Moyers at mmoyers@utah.gov or 801-657-5217 V/VP. We welcome any interested parties who want to be a part of our new, upcoming offering!

SUDHHP Supports Employer by providing ASL classes

*This article appeared in St. George **The Spectrum** by Samantha Sadlier, 9:37 p.m. February 11, 2015*

After hiring several new employees who happened to be deaf, L'Chef General Manager Dennis Leavitt took a proactive approach to ensuring he and other staff would be able to communicate well with them by partnering with the Southern



Utah State Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

As the headquarters for the company L'Chef, parent company of products like Nutrimill, Bosch and L'Equip, moves to St. George for its primary location, Leavitt said the company is growing and adding in new employees.

To date, four new employees working on the manufacturing line are deaf, he said.

"As part of us growing the business ... we hired these deaf people, who often find it difficult to find employment," he said.

So far, the workers are performing great, and the existing staff at L'Chef have taken part in an American Sign Language Class offered at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center, Leavitt said.

"They are doing really well and we are confident in their work ethic," he said. "They really wanted to be here, and it's been good for us to have them here."

To further the company's efforts in better communicating with the new staff, Leavitt decided to have his other employees take part in an ASL class as well as in a service project at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center.

"We wanted to make sure we could communicate well," he said. "We wanted to offer the best support we could for our employees. The class was really fun, and some of us are going to keep taking the classes and keep learning."

Grant Pemberton, director of the Southern Utah Deaf Center, said he was impressed with Leavitt's enthusiasm and desire to provide communication support for his employees. "Dennis has been really proactive," he said. "He's been really awesome". Tiffany Harding, interpreter programs manager for the center, said she taught the L'Chef staff during the ASL class and helped them organize a service project with the center. "It was mutually beneficial," she said.

The center often works with individuals who are deaf to find employment, but this was one of the first times that an actual employer sought out assistance from the center, she said.

Ensuring those who are deaf or are hard of hearing have access to employment is part of the work the staff does at the center, she said.

"The deaf is just a linguist minority," she said. "I don't look at it like a disability. They can do the same things as any other employee."

The center offers weekly free ASL evening classes for those interested.



Employees of L'Chef learn sign language Friday, Feb. 6, 2015, in order to improve communication with coworkers who are deaf. (Photo: Chris

Schedule of Events

SUDHHP= Southern Utah Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program

8th: ASL Senior 45+ Table Games, 11am-2pm @ SUDHHP center

9th: Feel Good Workshop #3
"Reflective Responses" presented by Grant Pemberton in ASL
3:30pm-5pm @ SUDHHP center

11th: EIPA Interpreter Training
9am-1pm @ SUDHHP
(Video Conferencing) **Must RSVP** to Tiffany Harding tharding@utah.gov

18th: Dixie Outdoors ASL Club (DOAC) going to Kite Festival
come join at Sun River

22nd: Fair Housing Workshop
5:30-8:00pm @ SUDHHP center

30th: DOAC Golfing Workshop
3-5pm @ SUDHHP center

ASL Classes info:

Tiffany Harding
tharding@utah.gov

(Last day of classes, week of April 27th)



APRIL 2015



"OUR MISSION IS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING BY PROVIDING EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND ACCESSIBLE SUPPORT"

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			Seniors ASL Table Game Day 	Feel Good Workshop #3 		EIPA Terp Workshop
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
						DOAC Kite Festival
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Fair Housing Workshop 			
26	27	28	29	30		
				DOAC Golf Workshop 		

Checkout our Facebook page:
"Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program"



***** PLEASE NOTE *****
Remember to always RSVP to reserve your spot at any of the activities.
Let us know if you need any ADA accommodations when you RSVP.
Thank you.

SOUTHERN UTAH DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PROGRAMS 1067 E. TABERNACLE, SUITE 10 ST GEORGE, UT 84770
(435) 673-8974 VOICE (435) 216-9305 VP SUDHHP@UTAH.GOV

Feel Good Workshop #3

"Reflective Responses"

A method that can change your life with others

April 9th, 2015 3:30-5:00 pm



@ SUDHHP Center RSVP meredithwinn@utah.gov or VP 435-216-9305

Free Legal Advice

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month. 3-5pm

Interpreters will be provided.

When: April 8th, 2014

Time: 3-5p

Where: SUDHHP center



APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

Please contact

Diego Acosta by Jan 9th

vp: 435-767-0113

dacosta@utah.gov

Hearing Aids:

The First 30 Days

Every Friday

2:00-3:00pm

For more info please contact Peggy Thomson
435-628-5368 or pgarri@utah.gov



Fair Housing Workshop

April 22, 2015

5:30-7:00pm

@ SUDHHP Center



What are your housing rights?

To RSVP your name will be in the

door prize drawing. Contact:

Diego Acosta dacosta@gmail.com

or call VP 435-767-0113

Refreshments provided and

social hour 7-8pm

Dixie Outdoors ASL Club (DOAC)

Travis Kayhart

"ASL Golfing Workshop"

@ SUDHHP center

April 30, 2015

3:00-5:00pm



FREE ASL CLASSES at Sunny Side of Utah

St. George Location

Tuesday's Schedule:

Beginning ASL 5:30-7:00pm

Intro to ASL 5:30-7:00pm

Wednesday's Schedule:

Advanced ASL 5:30-7:00pm

Cedar City Location

Tuesday's Schedule:

Intro ASL 5:45-8:00pm

Advanced ASL 6:45-8:15pm

Thursday Schedule:

Beginning ASL 5:00-8:30PM

For more info please call 435-673-8974

The Rotary Club Comes to Southern Utah

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program

Since the first donation of \$26.50 in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totaling more than \$1 billion.

David Higby of our local Rotary Club call to ask if they could hold one of their meetings at our facility and learn more about Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing's function in the community. Twenty of their members attended and were welcomed to the center by Grant Pemberton our Director. A presentation was given by Diego Acosta on service to the Deaf and hiring the Deaf in the work place. He emphasized their abilities and talked about how simple accommodations are to employ the Deaf. He did a great job answering question and tried to put them at ease to hire the Deaf in the work place.

Then a presentation on the services we give to the Hard of Hearing. They were educated on how to talk to the Hard of Hearing, We had their members try out the loop system and they were impressed. Then they were shown other assistive technology for the Hard of Hearing. The services we render to the Hard of Hearing and education that is done in the community for the Hard of Hearing, senior centers, assisted living facilities, home nursing services as well as hearing loss prevention in the schools were discussed. They were each offered material the service in out program and activity calendars for upcoming events and classes.

It was a very successful event and both side learned much about our respective programs — *by Peggy Thomson*

EVOLUTION OF FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

1947: The Foundation established its first program, Fellowships for Advance Study, later known as Ambassadorial Scholarships.

1965-66: Three programs were launched: Group Study Exchange, Awards for Technical Training, and Grants for Activities in Keeping with the Objective of The Rotary Foundation, which was later called Matching Grants.

1978: Rotary introduced the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants. The first 3-H Grant funded a project to immunize 6 million Philippine children against polio.

1985: The [PolioPlus program](#) was launched to eradicate polio worldwide.

1987-88: The first peace forums were held, leading to [Rotary Peace Fellowships](#).

2013: New [district, global, and packaged grants](#) enable Rotarians around the world to respond to the world's greatest needs.

Since the first donation of \$26.50 in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totaling more than \$1 billion.

The Rotary Club is:

HISTORY OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

At the 1917 convention, outgoing RI President Arch C. Klumph proposed to set up an endowment "for the purpose of doing good in the world." In 1928, it was renamed The Rotary Foundation, and it became a distinct entity within Rotary International.

GROWTH OF THE FOUNDATION

In 1929, the Foundation made its first gift of \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. The organization, created by Rotarian Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen, later grew into Easter Seals.

When Rotary founder Paul Harris died in 1947, contributions began pouring in to Rotary International, and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the Foundation.



DSDHH Staff Directory

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Meredith Poole	435-216-9305	meredithwinn@utah.gov
Peggy Thomson	435-652-2452 (voice only)	pgarrison@utah.gov

Robert G Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84123-5217
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Map To DSDHH

For information regarding deadlines and submission of
flyers, please contact us at: 801.657.5200

Did You Know?

You can also view this newsletter and other current
information online at:
WWW.DEAFSERVICES.UTAH.GOV

Mission Statement

*To provide opportunities and programs to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing which
enhance or maintain the skills necessary to fully participate in their employment, family and community.*